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MARCH 1960

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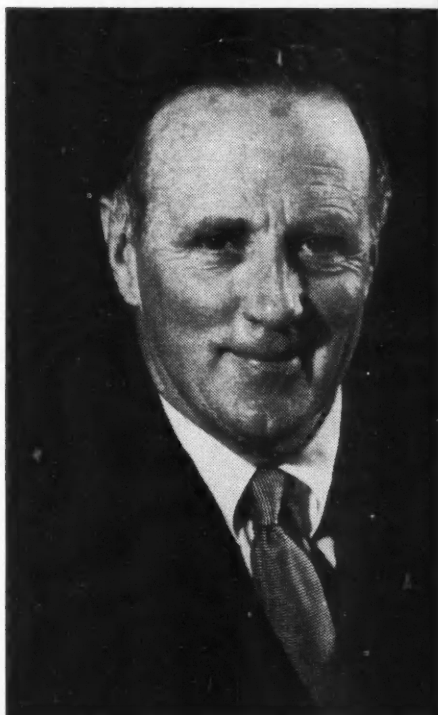
DIGEST SPOTLIGHT

on

**The Rt. Hon. Earl
DE LA WARR**
P.C., G.B.E.

Chairman of the Council
of the
Royal Commonwealth Society

Serial Dept.
JUN 10 1960



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Commonwealth Digest

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Digest Spotlight focuses on

The Rt. Hon. Earl De La Warr, P.C., G.B.E.

Chairman of the Council of the Royal Commonwealth Society.

HERBRAND Edward Dundonald Brassey Sackville, ninth Earl De La Warr, and Buck to his friends, was born at the dawn of the twentieth century. Something of the dynamism, the uncertainty, and the speed of the last sixty years has shown itself in his own character.

He started life equipped with the proverbial silver spoon; he went to Eton; at fifteen he succeeded his father; at twenty-one he had served on the lower deck of the Royal Navy, had married and was the possessor of a son and heir. Life moved fast. The speed and gaiety of the twenties matched his age group, and something of its frustrations were his too. He turned to politics and to the Labour Party to find the answer. At thirty De La Warr held his first parliamentary secretaryship under a Labour administration. High office succeeded high office in the years ahead. Labour became National Labour, Coalition followed, and in the post war years modern Tory philosophy found its convert.

The vagaries of government, aided by his own restless mind led him from one post to another, but gave him as a result a width of experience that all might envy—agriculture — education — Colonies —

Lord Privy Seal — Postmaster General; it took him to Africa as chairman of Commissions; it held him through the changing years to a deepening and practical interest in agriculture and the land.

High political honours had come and gone. His friends all liked him. He had a great deal to do. But something was missing, something still eluded this ever young and quicksilver mind, some cause that might submerge the ego in the challenge. There is no doubt that in his present job as chairman of the Royal Commonwealth Society, Buck De La Warr has found this challenge. It takes him day in and out to his desk in Northumberland Avenue, it takes him to the city, and from the city across the whole length of the Commonwealth. Perhaps he was lucky in that his predecessor Sir Charles Ponsonby had started the reconstruction that was to make the oldest of the Empire Societies into the driving force of the new Commonwealth. But Sir Charles had also chosen his successor well, and today De La Warr's dynamism, and tireless energy is putting the R.C.S. into the forefront of Commonwealth thought and action. Behind him he has a team of voluntary experts who match his

[continued on page 80]

COMMONWEALTH DIGEST

and

WORLD ECONOMIC REVIEW

MARCH 1960

VOLUME I

No. 2

The Royal Commonwealth Society

WHEN H.M. the Queen visited Nigeria some time ago the Nigerian Transport Minister spoke of the Commonwealth as "the finest example of a League of Nations in existence". Nowhere is this description better exemplified than at the Headquarters of the Royal Commonwealth Society in London. This is the central meeting ground for the 30,000 members who come from all parts of Britain and the world, and it is also the centre of a large Society engaged in promoting knowledge and understanding of each other on the part of the widely differing peoples linked together, 660 million of them, of many races, colours and creeds which go to make up the Commonwealth.

Changing conditions

Originally called the Colonial Society, it was founded as long ago as 1868 by a small group of people who were anxious to combat growing tendency to "throw off the burden of the Colonies", and to foster the development of a great Empire and Commonwealth. By 1882 a Royal Charter was granted. To meet changing conditions the name was changed in 1928 to Royal Empire

Society and again thirty years later to its present title of Royal Commonwealth Society.

Activities

Formerly, the Society concentrated its efforts on interesting people in the United Kingdom in the importance to them of their vast overseas connections. In the changed conditions of the second half of the 20th century their aim is to interest the partners of the Commonwealth in the importance to them of their connection with one another. To this end the Society engages in a great variety of activities, meetings, conferences, Summer Schools, and it particularly concentrates on the education of young people in Commonwealth affairs. It has a library which has on its shelves a wealth of material on Commonwealth affairs, past and present, and the Society publishes a journal for its members.

There are a number of branches in the U.K., also in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Africa, Ceylon and Bermuda. Details of subscriptions can be obtained from the Secretary General, The Royal Commonwealth Society, Northumberland Avenue, London, W.C.2.

Commonwealth Survey

(1) CANADA IN WORLD AFFAIRS

WE in Canada are sharing in this political evolution which has produced the Commonwealth of Nations. This is another association contributing to Canada's international strength today. Our Commonwealth is an association for which we have a deep sentimental attachment reinforced by the comradeship and common sacrifices made in two World Wars. . . .

But, of course, there is far more to this unique fraternity than mere sentiment. The Commonwealth is an entirely new concept embracing the belief that sovereignty, limited by a voluntary association with other sovereignties for the preservation of common values, is an acceptable, satisfying and civilized political order. It is, moreover, a dynamic concept with members being constantly admitted as they emerge from colonial to independent status. In 1957 we welcomed into the Commonwealth the Federation of Malaya. Next year will see Nigeria take her place in our family of nations, and Canada will shortly be opening a diplomatic post in the capital, Lagos. Shortly thereafter our island neighbours in the Caribbean—the West Indies Federation—will be joining the club, and it has been one of Canada's policies to extend substantial aid and assistance

to this potential full Commonwealth member.

Order with Freedom

The fact that these new nations are voluntarily joining the Commonwealth graphically illustrates the kind of multi-racial community which is developing, bound together by common ideals and institutions, and exercising a profound influence for good throughout the world. I believe the Commonwealth offers a lesson for the world in that it points the way towards the only tolerable solution of the basic dilemma of our time—the problem of achieving order with freedom.

There are lessons, too, for others in the way in which there is mutual assistance within the Commonwealth for improving the lot of the less-developed members. The greater part of Canadian assistance has been carried out under the Colombo Plan, to which we have this year raised our contribution to \$50 million. The full title of this Plan is 'The Colombo Plan for Co-operative Economic Development in South and South-East Asia', and the word 'co-operative' has been consistently stressed in the ten years of the Plan's operation. Working together there has been established a very fine relationship among the member countries of the Plan and the Plan lives up to its title. . . .

From a speech by Mr. Howard Green, Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs.

(2) ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN THE WEST INDIES

IT needs little more than a glance at a map to visualise the main obstacles which confront the British West Indies in their economic life. The area is widespread and mostly water. Lengthy sea journeys separate the peoples of many of the territories from one another. A good deal has been done in recent years to improve communications, but these are still inadequate and it is difficult for the area to function as a unit. With two exceptions the territories are islands, some quite small and none particularly large. The modern advantages of mass production are geographically denied to them. Furthermore, the generally delightful climate is less gracious to the agriculturist than to the tourist; it has its full share of tropical hazards, such as hurricanes and droughts.

In spite of these natural difficulties, the British Caribbean has made good economic progress since the end of the second world war. Figures of external trade show considerable growth. In the three years 1936 to 1938, imports and exports combined averaged £37 million annually; in 1958 they totalled £376 million. Even after allowing for the great fall in the value of money, these figures are striking. Imports exceed exports, so that the area has an adverse balance on visible trade. Complete balance of payments figures are not available but there are known to be substantial receipts on invisible accounts from various

sources, notably the tourist trade. In the five years to 31st December, 1958, West Indian sterling balances increased from £105 million to £148 million.

King Sugar

The sugar crop has played the leading part in the area's economic expansion. In 1936-38, total production averaged 638,000 tons; in 1947 it was 626,000 tons. By 1958 it had risen to over 1,080,000 tons, while estimates for 1959 suggest a total of nearly 1,140,000 tons. This increase must be related to the stability given to the industry by the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement dating from 1950, which provides assured marketing for 927,000 tons and a remunerative, guaranteed price for more than two-thirds of this amount. Additional quotas for export are often available through the redistribution of shortfalls from other territories covered by the Agreement and from quotas made available under the International Sugar Agreement. The value of these arrangements to the West Indian sugar grower can hardly be over-estimated.

Bananas are one of the leading exports, particularly from Jamaica which was a large producer in pre-war days. Hurricanes and disease seriously affected the crop, both during and after the war, but in the past five or six years there has been some recovery. A feature of recent years has been the expansion of

From Overseas Review, Barclays Bank D.C.O., December, 1959.

banana cultivation in the Windward Islands, under the stimulus of a long-term contract with a British firm, which has also provided the necessary shipping space. In the islands of Granada, Dominica and St. Vincent, production is expanding, while in St. Lucia, formerly mainly a sugar-growing island, land is being turned over from sugar to bananas. Practically the entire export of bananas is sold on the United Kingdom market.

Citrus

Citrus fruits are grown in a number of the territories and in various forms are exported, again very largely to Britain, in circumstances which are of particular interest at the present time. These fruits are grown in many parts of the world, but on a notably large scale in the United States where production is sustained by an enormous home market and by the most modern methods. The possibility that the gradual relaxation of controls over the import of dollar goods might open the United Kingdom to American citrus products has caused considerable concern to West Indian, and indeed other Commonwealth producers, but the relaxation on dollar imports into the United Kingdom does not extend to fresh or canned grapefruit nor to orange and grapefruit juices, which are the principal citrus imports from the West Indies.

Minerals

Other economic activities of special interest include two minerals of

particular importance, oil in Trinidad and bauxite in Jamaica and British Guiana. Oil production is steadily increasing and, in addition to the employment it gives and the foreign currency it earns, it is a notable contributor to government revenue. In 1958, nearly half the total ordinary revenue of Trinidad came from the oil industry. In Jamaica and British Guiana, bauxite production has been developed on a large scale since the war by Canadian and American capital; in Jamaica, particularly, government revenue should increase substantially from royalties and taxes relating to bauxite production.

In recent years local governments have given much attention to the encouragement of industry, with some success, particularly in Jamaica and Trinidad. As in other undeveloped areas, the cement industry has proved to be that in which development has been most rapid. Imports of cement into Jamaica and Trinidad which were formerly considerable, have been reduced to insignificant figures. A wide range of industries manufacturing consumer goods is being established in these two islands, though the comparatively small size of the local market militates against industrial development on a large scale.

Tourism

Any survey of economic progress in the West Indian islands must take into account the development of the tourist industry, in which the

neighbouring Bahamas islands gave the lead. In Jamaica the industry is expanding rapidly and is an important source of dollar income. Barbados is also extending its facilities and a number of the smaller islands are finding that their beaches and scenery are economic assets.

To sum up, after making due allowance for valuable progress in mining, industry and tourism, it remains true that the bulk of the population lives on its agriculture and must continue to do so. In this respect a considerable responsibility rests on the United Kingdom. This country is the principal, in some cases the only, outlet for West

Indian export crops, and this market must be preserved. Products from the less-developed areas such as the British Caribbean can only compete on equal terms in world markets if they enjoy substantial climatic and other natural advantages. When the natural advantages are also enjoyed by more advanced countries, it is unrealistic to expect the poorer areas to compete effectively without some form of assistance. The extensive removal of trading restrictions will be of widespread benefit, particularly to highly developed economies, but the drive to freedom must not be allowed to send the weaker countries to the wall.

(3) THE RODENTS

NOTWITHSTANDING the heart-break of the federal conference, in many respects the year which is now drawing to its close has been an encouraging period for the British Caribbean territories. Constitutionally the units have made notable advances. Industrial development has gathered pace, oil and bauxite have continued to make possible much that would have been unthinkable without them, while on every hand are signs of the impact of the tourist industry. Indeed, a stranger visiting Jamaica's north shore might be forgiven for supposing that he had arrived in a land of surpassing affluence, *but*—there are rodents about, nibbling away in the out-houses, undermining the agricultural structure of these territories on which basically their economy

and the livelihood of the vast majority of their peoples depends.

When the United Kingdom representatives set their signatures to the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement they gave an earnest of what we know to be the real desire of the British people. When West Indian affairs are discussed in Parliament, member after member, of whatever party, stands up to champion their cause. But—and *again* but—Parliament does not know all, still less do the friendly people of these islands. The damage is done by the agencies they have set up. These are the rodents, and, as rodents are wont to do, they work silently and unseen, till one day the good man wakes up and, were he a West Indian would say "Oh me Gawd! —me corn finish!"

From Chronicle of The West Indies Committee, December, 1959.

Persistent erosion

It would be tedious here to recount the sad story of the Jamaican cigar industry—the steady, persistent erosion, year after year, all fully set out and protest made in the pages of the *Chronicle* and its predecessor the *Circular*; the inroads into the citrus industry, and the successive budgets, presented to Parliament all cut and dried, and doing nothing to stem the disastrous devaluation of preferences—indeed, we must recall the reduction of what even then was the niggardly preference on rum as a concession to other parties to the G.A.T.T.

At the root of the trouble, of course, is an obsession with the move towards the “ideal” of world-wide free trade, an obsession which blinds its fanatical devotees to the needs of underdeveloped countries—surely those countries where unemployment is widespread and consequent misery plain to be seen; and, let there be no doubt about this, unemployment such as is unheard of in the United Kingdom pervades the West Indian territories, despite oil, despite bauxite, despite sugar industrialization and grand hotels. “Paramount”—and now we must be tedious, for we have often repeated it, “paramount” is the word used in Article 73 of the Charter of the United Nations, the forgotten father of the G.A.T.T. In the Charter the needs of the dependent territories are set out not only as “paramount”, but also as “a sacred trust”—words which will drive no one to the dictionary.

Trade liberalisation

What then are we to make of the latest effort of the rodents? The recent announcement concerning trade liberalization seems to suggest paternal care for the West Indian grapefruit juice and orange juice industries, liberalization having been extended only to “fruit juices other than grapefruit juice and orange juice”. The uninitiated would hardly suspect that last year all fruit juices were under one quota, that more than half of that quota was taken up by lemon juice, and that the removal of lemon juice from the quota has the effect that the quota for grapefruit juice and orange juice has been more than doubled.

What lies here of “paramount” and “sacred trust”? The decision means not only that in quantity what is gained by the U.S.A. citrus industry is lost by the West Indies. The matter bites deeper. What has already happened in the case of canned grapefruit sections will almost certainly extend to juices, and, hardly credible, but true, neither juices nor sections are protected by any preference other than the infinitesimal preference on the sugar content of the syrup in which they are preserved.

Already the sale of American canned grapefruit sections has forced prices of West Indian supplies down. Ah! say the long-haired ones, clapping their hands—see what competition has done, ignoring such plain facts as that the giant American industry is already

more fat and well liking than Jacob's cattle ever were, so that a cut of two shillings a carton is a small price to pay; that such a cut is something which the West Indian producers, whose packing material is not on the doorstep, as in America, but has to be imported, cannot afford; and that canned grapefruit is not the food of the poor of this country, but of people who could, and, if aware of the need, would gladly pay the not extravagant price that prevailed until recently, just as they have opened their purses wide to hurricane appeals and for the University College of the West Indies. Nor do we ignore the fact that the Government of the United States has itself been most generous to the West Indies. Surely it will see the nonsense in providing development aid on the one hand and pressing for the frustration of the products of development on the other. Indeed, is it too much to hope that the United States producers themselves be disposed to consider these things, and confine their export operations to markets from which their special advantages have enabled them already to exclude West Indian citrus?

A plain duty

Whatever the answer in this particular case, the United Kingdom authorities have a plain duty here and elsewhere. It is set out in the Charter. Let it percolate to the heart, and stiffen the determination to call a halt—or, better still, to repair the damage done wherever it has occurred. A start might be made with the revalorization of preferences. Most of the things which the West Indies import from the United Kingdom enjoy heavy preferences on an *ad valorem* basis, which accordingly are worth today as much as when they were given, in return for United Kingdom preferences on a specific basis, which, being specific by weight or measure, are today worth only a fraction of what they were worth originally—in some cases, notably rum and cigars, worth nothing at all. Is this right? Is G.A.T.T. to be pleaded in the face of manifest injustice? Does not G.A.T.T. cry aloud for amendment, in this respect? Indeed, is not the claim that to restore the original value of a preference is to grant a new preference sheer rubbish?

(4) INCOME FIGURES IN NEW ZEALAND

The net incomes of all farmers in New Zealand for 1958-59, fell by £19 million from the 1957-58 figure to just over £102½ million. Business and professional incomes netted £75,200,000—a decrease of £1½ million. Salary and wage earners shared nearly £521 million among 592,800 people, compared with nearly £490 million among 570,500 a year earlier.

(5) COLOMBO PLAN REPORT

THE Eighth Annual Report* of the Consultative Committee of the Colombo Plan for Co-operative Economic Development in South and South-East Asia reports a quickened pace of economic activity in the Colombo Plan area during the past year. This plan, started in 1950 as a result of Commonwealth initiative co-ordinates the co-operative effort which the countries of South and South-East Asia, helped by member countries outside the Region, are making to develop their economies and raise the living standards of their peoples.

The Report reviews the achievements of the year ending mid 1959 in the Region, and the help given by the countries outside the Region.

Review of economic progress

The main general points to be noted under "Review of Economic Progress" are as follows:

Agricultural production in the area constituted the basic element of the general economic advance, an upswing shared by iron, coal, petroleum and industry in general. Major emphasis in the area's efforts to promote economic development continued to be placed on increasing agricultural output, improving basic facilities such as roads and irrigation, and on land reclamation. Substantial gains were recorded in the production of food grown in the area.

External assistance continued to

be received in various forms. The value of aid during 1958-59 from donor countries amounted to over 1,400 million dollars.

Technical assistance continued to play an important role in the economic development of the area.

Balance of payment pressures were eased; deficits in trade balances diminished and were in some cases converted into a surplus.

U.K. contribution

Up to June 30th, 1959, the total amount of Government assistance by the United Kingdom under the Colombo Plan for which commitments had been made since 1951 was almost £150 million.

Assistance by the United Kingdom includes such projects as £809,000 for the University of Malaya, Singapore; about £1,200,000 for the Paya Lebar airport, Singapore; £191,700 for part development in Kuching; £1,346,000 for road development and £459,000 for hospital construction in North Borneo and Sarawak, £886,000 for the East-West road in Malaya, and £506,000 for the construction of a new technical college in Malaya.

The United Kingdom Government granted a credit of £28½ million to India, as well as signing the agreement relating to the United Kingdom credit of £15 million for the Durgapur Steel Mill. The United Kingdom also agreed to

*Copies may be obtained from H.M.S.O., price 9/6d. (Cmd. 920).

grant a credit of £10 million to Pakistan for her development programme.

The most challenging features of

the task ahead, says the Report, are the stark fact of poverty in many parts of the area and the rapid rise in population.

(6) CAPE WINE

IN 1918 Cape Wine growers embarked on a bold experiment to pool their resources and to form an organization which would protect their interests and develop export markets for their wines. To this end they founded the Co-operative Winegrowers Association of South Africa Limited (Ko-operatieve Wijnbouwers Vereniging), today better known by the initials of its Afrikaans title, KWV. The function of this body is to ensure for wine growers an adequate return for their produce, and to encourage the production of quality wines for export.

Through the KWV the wine

growers of the Cape today own five cellars in Paarl, Montagu, Worcester, Robertson and Stellenbosch, with a combined storage capacity of almost 50,000,000 gallons of wine. In these cellars they employ skilled and highly qualified wine experts whose specialized knowledge of oenology is at the disposal of individual members of the organization.

As a result of this far-sighted policy of co-operation, South African wines today enjoy a steady demand and increasing popularity in more than twenty-five countries spread throughout the civilized world.

(7) OIL IN THE AUSTRALIAN ECONOMY

AUSTRALIA, with her vast spaces and widely separated communities, is a country where road transport has necessarily been highly developed and there are already some three million motor vehicles to serve a population of about ten million. Mechanisation has also been widely introduced into the production of foodstuffs as well as into other industries which are being rapidly developed. Australia has therefore come to rely heavily on petroleum products and in relation to her population makes much greater use of them than does Britain. In 1957—

the latest year for which figures are available—*per capita* oil demand in Australia was 203 gallons compared with 116 gallons for the U.K.

As in most other countries, strenuous endeavours have been made to uncover indigenous resources of petroleum. As yet these have proved abortive—despite the expenditure to date of tens of millions of pounds—but they are being continued. Large-scale efforts to find oil have also been made in Papua (Australian New Guinea) but although an interesting discovery was reported from Puri towards the

From Petroleum Information Bureau News Letter, December, 1959.

end of 1958, so far further drilling has failed to confirm that commercial production can be sustained.

Meantime Australia is entirely reliant on imports to meet her requirements, and in the interests of her economy has built up an extensive home refining industry operating on crude oil from the Middle East and Indonesia for the most part. Present capacity is of the order of 11 million tons, which will

be raised by 1962 to 14 millions. Already domestic needs of most products are met from these refineries and although certain products are imported to some extent this is counterbalanced by exports of other products of which a surplus is available. There is thus some revenue from oil sales to partially offset the cost of importing oil—one respect in which there is a marked similarity between Australia and the U.K.

A New Tendency in French Economic Theory

FRANCE repudiates the alternatives offered by the different economic theories and sums up, *grosso modo*, with the fatal choice between inflation, deflation and totalitarianism. This school—started by the young economist Pierre Vinot and completed by the “Centre d’Etudes de la Consommativité” for practical research work—advocates an *original solution involving special statistical techniques*. They hope in this way to be able to tell us how to *dam the price-salary tide* and how to get out of the “false alternatives wished on us by experts”. This school seeks to determine whether expansion, full employment, and monetary stability are possible all at the same time in a free régime, and ignores the incompatibility—recognised by all the economists of the existing schools—forcing to renounce one of these factors. Rejecting

theory and starting with direct observation, they show the ways and means of authentic and lasting economic recovery and of a progressive rise of the standard of living ensuring the optimum utilisation of potential production in a free system. The idea of an “overall balance” of supply and demand is rejected. True balance is established rather by concrete offers and corresponding demands. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary to know the internal structure of latter.

The problem of modern society

The problem of modern society would be the problem of the structure and of the methods of creating the purchasing power. According to the “*Revue politique et parlementaire*” this new tendency may be the start of a movement of ideas of which we cannot yet measure the development.

From Forecasts, Pronostics S.A. Geneva.

Laboratory for Desert Living

by DANIEL BEHRMAR

"MAN can work in the Sahara without any visible harm to his health, and his productivity there can be as high as it is in Europe . . . provided certain conditions of diet and housing are met."

This statement came from Dr. Georges Lambert, a young French medical man who is assistant director of "PROHUZA"—a word made up of the French initials for "Study and Information Centre for Human Problems in the Arid Zones."

Prohuza, financed by the French African Industrial Bureau and companies developing the Sahara, is attacking many aspects of the problems raised by transplanting modern industrial civilization into the heart of the desert.

Its studies on the adaptation of European workers to the Sahara were carried out at Hassi Messaoud, some 500 miles inland from the Mediterranean and sixty miles from the nearest oasis, where oil was discovered in 1957.

Pioneer experiments

Experiments were carried out with three five-man teams of oil drillers, Dr. Lambert explained. He believes that these were the first scientific experiments on the adaptation of man to a desert climate actually carried out in the field and not under simulated laboratory conditions.

"Unlike what most of us have always thought, the climate in the Sahara is not too harmful for skilled workers," Dr. Lambert said. During the experiments, careful measurements were made of food intake and losses of men in the oil fields working around the clock in three eight-hour shifts.

In the heat of a desert summer, it was found that the 3,500-calorie diet offered in the ultra-modern dining room at Hassi Messaoud camp was quite adequate for skilled workers on a difficult job. Protein consumption rose slightly above what it would have been in Europe.

"The main food problem at Hassi Messaoud is psychological," Dr. Lambert admitted somewhat ruefully. "You see, when the oil company started hiring men for the Sahara, candidates were promised good jobs and good food. Fats should be avoided in the desert—they're hard to digest—but the men want to eat well. You find some oil prospectors eating *pâté de foie gras* and sardines when it's 122°F. (50° C.) in the shade!"

Diet

As for the dining room, it offers the same menu as a good Paris restaurant. "Look what they had for lunch one day last August," said

From UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) Courier, January, 1960.

Dr. Lambert, flipping open a notebook, "*Charcuterie* (that is, sausages and pâté) and lettuce for an appetizer, followed by *escalope à la crème* (veal steak with a cream sauce), vegetables, Camambert cheese and fruit. We'd like to change this menu, but it's hard to go back on our promises."

The ideal meal for desert workers, he explained, would consist of a mixed salad, an appetizer, grilled meat, then cheese and fruit, with a heavy accent on fresh vegetables.

Actually, such a menu would be very expensive since the fresh fruit and vegetables on which it is largely based, cost 110 francs (\$0.20) a pound just to fly in.

European oil drillers in the Sahara are heavy drinkers . . . of water. They lose 14 litres (more than three gallons) a day in perspiration and they drink an equivalent amount of Evian or Vittel water brought into Hassi Messaoud in special cardboard or aluminium containers.

There is water at Hassi Messaoud, but it contains too many minerals to be drunk safely in large quantities. So, paradoxically, the salty water on the spot goes unused while salt must be added to the diet in the dining room.

Scientific research has shown that the traditional food of the Saharan nomads is an excellent desert diet. It is rich in spices—salt and pepper—and contains very little fat (the meat is usually roasted on a spit).

Diet is only half the story in providing suitable working conditions in an arid zone. The other half is housing and, of course, all quarters must be air-conditioned. The system, however, is different from that used in most towns.

The usual method of air conditioning, Dr. Lambert explained, consists of a compressor producing very cold and very dry air. In the Sahara, this would dry out the skin immediately. Instead, an evaporation system is used. Based upon the principle that water absorbs heat when it is evaporated, it consists simply of a powerful turbine blowing water through the air. It cools a house—bringing the inside temperature down to 86°F. (30°C.) when it is 122°F. (50°C.) outside and, at the same time, it humidifies it.

This air-conditioning costs much less to run and install than a conventional system. There's just one hitch: it can only be used in the Sahara or in a similar climate where the humidity of the air is less than 10 per cent. In New York or Bombay, for example, it wouldn't work.

"Cafard"?

PROHUZA has studied certain other factors affecting the adaptation of man to desert conditions. At present, employees have a choice of three different schedules: three weeks at Hassi Messaoud, then one week in Algiers; nine weeks in the

desert and three weeks in France; or six weeks on the job and two weeks in Algiers or in France. In each case, they work seven days a week without any time off on Sundays or holidays.

Studies show, Dr. Lambert stated, that the three to one system is the least advisable. "Three weeks are just enough time for a man to adapt himself to the desert—he's hardly settled in and it's already time to go on leave," he explained. "In the end, he adapts himself neither to the job nor to the leave."

This raises a series of psychological problems which are just as important as food or housing. Scientists at Hassi Messaoud have observed a rapid increase in the rate of labour turnover in recent months.

But according to Dr. Lambert that is only normal. The first oil workers in the desert were young men with an itch for adventure.

They were excellent during the prospecting stage but now that a city of 2,000 has grown up around the oil wells, they have become restless.

This has led to the hiring of older men to handle the job of extracting and shipping oil—and the appearance of a new set of problems revolving around family life and housing.

"Everyone has his own opinion on the matter," Dr. Lambert said. "The basic problem is that men are too far from their normal environment of friends and families."

Three possible solutions are now being studied: leaves of absence long enough to enable the oilmen to return to Europe; bringing the families to Algiers; or bringing them to Hassi Messaoud.

No decision has yet been taken, but Dr. Lambert believes that all three will be used, varying from one individual case to another.

WHY NOT IN 1960?

For, in our time, the only quarrel worthwhile is that of mankind. It is mankind that must be saved, made to live and enabled to advance. We, who live between the Atlantic and the Urals: we, who are Europe, possessing with America the principal sources and resources of civilization, why do we not pool a percentage of our raw materials, our manufactured goods, our food products, some of our scientists, technologists, economists, some of our trucks, ships, aircraft in order to vanquish misery, develop the resources and help in the work of less developed peoples? Let us do this—not that they should be pawns of our policies, but to improve the chances of life and peace. How much more worthwhile that would be than the territorial demands, ideological claims, imperialistic ambitions which are leading the world to its death!

General de Gaulle, President of the French Community, March, 1959.

Rural Economy

(1) MECHANIZATION OF AGRICULTURE IN POLAND

by HENRYK CHADZYNSKI

HORSE or tractor? Horse driven or power driven machinery? Equipment for small peasant farms or for common use? These were the dilemmas facing the Polish agricultural machinery industry until recently. This industry, after a period of uncertainty, has now become a focus of general interest. In 1960 a period of rapid growth and modernization of productive forces in agriculture will start in Poland. This is what makes the rôle of the agricultural machinery industry and how it plays it, so important. It is still very young: tractors and combines were not produced at all before the war, and the majority of plants have been built in People's Poland. Before the war agricultural needs were met by about 100, mostly small, plants which employed a total of 4,500 workers. Today, there are 28 large factories, producing agricultural machinery, including such modern plants as the URSUS tractor factory near Warsaw, a factory building harvesters in Poznan, a combine factory in Plock, new factories at Brzeg and Strzelce Opolskie. In addition there are 29 smaller plants which are part of a system of local industries.

Since the war agriculture has received 31,000 tractors, 33,000 sheaf-binders, 41,000 threshing machines, 140,000 grain drills and many others which before 1939 were not pro-

duced in Poland. However, in spite of the efforts made so far by the State to mechanize agriculture, the percentage of work carried out with the help of machinery is still very low. Austria, Belgium, France, Holland or Sweden have the resources for a 100 per cent mechanization of agriculture, Italy for 50 per cent, Czecho-slovakia and the German Democratic Republic for about 30 to 40 per cent, while Poland is capable of only about 14 per cent mechanization. State Farms and producers' co-operatives are a little better supplied with machinery, being 50 per cent mechanized. Individually-owned farms are in a worse position; the percentage of mechanization here is very low and fluctuates between 0.5 to 0.3 per cent, depending on the kind of work done.

Horse power

Horses are still a primary source of power in Polish agriculture. There are 13.4 horses per 100 hectares of arable land while in Czecho-slovakia the proportion is 7.3 horses, in Austria 5.8, in France and Sweden 6.4. While the number of horses in Europe has dropped since the war by 30 per cent, in Poland the decrease has been only 15.65 per cent. The maintenance of an excessive number of horses is a serious drag on the fodder resources of the

From Polish Perspectives Monthly Review, December, 1959.

country. To supply enough fodder for all the horses in Poland at the end of 1958 it was necessary to set aside for this purpose 3 million hectares of land—15 per cent of the arable land. It is estimated that 2.7—3 million tons of grain—more than the annual consumption of grain by the non-agricultural population—are needed to feed the horses in Poland. It is the lack of fodder which restricts the breeding of cattle and pigs. This is one of the reasons why mechanization has become a necessity.

Instead of the original plan for 80,000 tractors, the countryside will receive 112,000 in 1959-65. The countryside will receive about 100,000 trailers, about 55,000 grain drills, about 48,000 machines for spreading fertilizer, 95,000 sheaf-binders, 45,000 potato digging machines, 68,000 power threshers, 60,000 fuel engines and 286,000 electric motors. All this equipment will make it possible to mechanize about one-third of the work done on farms by 1965. Originally the plan provided for only about 22.5 per cent mechanization. The mechanization of agriculture will make 300,000 horses redundant by 1965.

New prospects

The programme of mechanization has opened up new prospects for the agricultural machinery industry. Until recently only 65 per cent of its potential was utilized. Initially it aimed mainly at supplying large State Farms and producers' co-operatives with equipment. However, the large decrease in the number of

co-operatives after 1956 put the factories producing agricultural machinery in a difficult situation. There was no demand for large tractors since they were beyond the means of the general run of small individual farms. There is no longer a sales problem since a new customer has appeared on the market—agricultural circles, which have received substantial funds for the purchase of machinery. It has been decided that the money equivalent of the services rendered to the State in the form of obligatory deliveries, will be set aside for the mechanization and improvement of agriculture.

Domestic industry, of course, will not be able to meet all the needs of agriculture in the next few years, and therefore an import of 19,500 tractors has been envisaged up to 1962. After that date the investment of 1,150 million zlotys in Polish tractor factories will make them capable of meeting the needs of the country.

This rapid growth in production will be made possible by the development and modernization of the already existing factories. The building of new factories would not only be more expensive but—what is worse—would take at least two to three years longer. On the other hand the modernization and development of the existing potential will make it possible for production to rise to 10,000 tractors by 1960 and to 13,000 tractors by 1961. The years 1964-65 will see the biggest leap forward.

(2) THE DEL PELO PARDI SYSTEM OF AGRICULTURE

by PEGGY GOODMAN

IN October, 1959, Signor Del Pelo Pardi, author of a book on the agricultural system devised by his father, and since taught by himself throughout the length and breadth of Italy, was requested by the Agricultural Department of the Italian Government in Rome to come and help them on one of the Government Land Reform Settlements situated about 15 miles north of Rome, directly above the Paris-Rome Railway line.

This settlement where peasant proprietors are housed in modern dwellings and assisted by the Government financially over a considerable period, until they are well established, has an exposed windy position on a plateau whose western slopes run down to the railway, with a road alongside it, and beyond that a flat stretch of onetime marsh, now drained and cultivated, extending a number of miles out to sea. As a result of terrible soil erosion, the peasants were impoverished and very bitter and discouraged, because the Government experts were powerless to help them or to stop the advance of sand and water encroaching on to the railway line itself.

Antagonism

In spite of the urgent need to arrest the erosion, Signor Del Pelo Pardi refused to begin until the Government allowed him to have all the peasant farmers for a three

weeks' course of instruction, so that they could be won over and convinced as to his methods, and learn how to collaborate with him in carrying out the work. The Government agreed, but at first the peasants were very antagonistic. They had had too much Government official advice in the past with little result, but finally he succeeded in persuading them to settle down to the course, and by the end of it they were convinced and eager to begin.

Humus restored

The Government sent caterpillar Tractors and gangs of workmen to help in the construction of collecting pools and dams, and in the making of well-devised terraces, with water channels to lead the heavy rains off the land by such gradual stages that it ceased to remove the top-soil and cause the structural breakdown of the soil surface. It was exceedingly difficult to fight against the awful rain and the short working days of winter. Work left unfinished at nightfall would be freshly eroded by daybreak. Finally success was achieved in rapidly building up a sound foundation on which humus content could be gradually restored, and crops grown. It will take about three years to cover the whole area involved.

There are a number of farms in

continued on page 69

(3) AGRICULTURE IN THE COMMON MARKET

by A. A. HOOKER

BASED on the assumption that standards of living within the Community will rise, it is clear that policy must be directed to an increase of animal food products and therefore of feed grains. It can also be anticipated with some certainty that this increase will take place mainly in France and Italy for the following reasons:

(1) There is more land suitable for agricultural expansion in France than in any other country in the "Six";

(2) There is considerable scope for increasing yields in France and Italy by stepping up the use of mineral fertilisers. At present France uses 48 kilos per hectare and Italy only 33 kilos per hectare. These figures are very low compared with Germany, for instance, at 135 kilos;

(3) The availability of labour for agriculture is greater in these two countries;

(4) The present price differential, as shown above, is definitely against

Germany, the only other sizeable producer.

If the objectives of the Rome Treaty are to be attained, there will have to be some radical changes in farming within the "Community". The present uneconomic use of labour cannot be tolerated. Production costs must be reduced by the introduction of increased mechanisation and more intensive methods generally. This, in turn, will mean the disappearance of the 2½ acre part-time farmers and their conversion into viable units of something over 100 acres. Many social problems will arise, and some resistance from a conservative peasantry can be expected. Compensation from a central fund may be necessary.

Without dictatorial powers, the change must be gradual, but farms must be made to pay and they must be organised and located so that this is possible. The detailed report of the "Commission", with its proposals as to how this change is to be accomplished, should be a most interesting document.

From The Agricultural Merchant.

CHILE

Chile adopted a new monetary unit, the "escudo", effective January 1st, 1960. The escudo is worth 1,000 old Chilean pesos and it is subdivided into 100 centesimos and 1,00 milesimos. The symbol of the new monetary unit is "Eq".

*From The Chase Manhattan Bank Foreign Trade Service,
December 31st, 1959.*

(4) FACTS ABOUT FOOD SUPPLIES

by Professor H. NICOL, of the West of Scotland Agricultural College.

HUMAN beings, says Professor Nicol, depend for survival on consuming a minimum of 16% of their diet in the form of protein. Cereal grains, which planners and publicists of the potentialities of fertilisers usually invoke almost exclusively, by themselves contain too low a proportion of protein and therefore cannot sustain life. Instead, protein needs are normally obtained either from pulses (i.e., the edible seeds of legumes) or from protein-rich animal products. Moreover, we have available to us an additional source of proteins of plant origin, viz., any young plant (including yeast, etc.) or any newly-formed part of any green plant.

There are several methods of "catching" these plants whilst they are still very young (i.e., when they are protein-rich). On land, the methods include rotational grazing of grassland, grass-drying, and other intensive forms of grassland agriculture, supplemented by pasture legumes. In the sea, many types of fish—which are rich sources of protein—feed on young plant growth quite naturally (no legumes are available for them to consume).

Vital role of Legumes

The greater part of the increase in "Western" populations over the past 100 years or so has been sustained only by an upsurge of leguminous plants and of animals fed

on the protein which they contain. Hoary legends about the urban population of Britain after the Industrial Revolution being fed by cereals from overseas are nutritionally incorrect. During the past 70 years or so fertilisers have been in general use, and at present nitrogenous fertilisers are normally declared to be the principal means available to man of increasing the food supply. However, if the extra (or larger) plants grown (by photosynthesis) with their aid are not harvested until they are mature (as usually happens) the increased output of protein per acre is matched by a still greater production of carbohydrates and the (absolute) protein gap is thereby widened still further. In tracts about world food problems we get tables about output of cereals, potatoes and sugar alongside tables of meat output, but never a reference to the vital role of legumes. The poor quality of much comment about food problems occurs largely because the FAO is dominated by economists who concern themselves only with potentially saleable commodities—and the followers of FAO do no better.

During the past 100 years the universities have lost interest in the fundamentals of crop production and research in agromony has been expected to show quick, "practical" results. A more fundamental approach to soil and fertiliser effects

from Chemistry and Industry, 28th August, 1959.

in relation to plant growth would measure total ionic effects (whether they were tending to hinder or help plant growth) by determining the electrical resistance of soils before and after such treatments as fertilising or liming (an ideal weight ratio between the negative and positive ions in soil is said by the author to be 2.4 to 1).

Chemical Ecology

Another aspect of modern food production which is usually overlooked is the tremendous consumption of fuels involved. Even before the food comes directly into the picture, fertilisers require fuel, or at least a good deal of energy, in their manufacture. And in food production itself oil-driven fishing vessels and motorised cultivation of land are only two examples of practices inevitably involving the use of fuel. Food production, of course, accounts for only a small proportion of annual fuel consumption. With only a limited proven world reserves of fuel, man is making a flippant bet with nature that it will all come right in the end. Forty years on we may see where his gamble has led him. Grandiose schemes abound for extending irrigation. There is

even talk of using sea water, though the planners ignore the grossly extravagant oil or other fuel outlays involved for operating the pumps or purifying the water (the author suggests that 40 tons of oil per year would be needed to pump and treat enough water to feed one or two people). Food is a substance: it cannot be generated by energy but requires other substances for its production. About one-third of "Western" and Japanese people at present, and an increasing proportion of mankind in the near future, must depend for food production on diminishing stocks of fuel from under the surface of the earth.

The reason for this neglect of study of the basic relations between man and food is that impulses to acquire knowledge and found new techniques are conditioned by laymen. Only gaps in knowledge of which laymen are aware are likely to be filled without much effort and persuasion by scientists. Fundamental science cannot be presented unless in a field of which laymen have grasped the importance. And it is safe to say that no layman has heard of chemical ecology—which is the chemical and fuel aspect of the relation of living things to the world.

Turnover Tax in Sweden

THE Swedish Riksdag on December 1st passed the Social-Democratic Party's proposal for a 4 per cent turnover tax to come into effect on January 1st, 1960. The tax, esti-

mated to yield about Kr. 1,400,000-000 (£96,550,000; \$270,000,000) in 1960, will be levied on consumer goods and certain investment goods plus services.

From The Swedish-International Press Bureau.

Soviet Town Planning

SOVIET BUILDING EXPERT DISCUSSES SOME PROBLEMS FACING TOWN PLANNERS AND ARCHITECTS

The rapid growth of Soviet towns, side by side with the development of the national economy, places a big responsibility on architects, planners and builders in the period of the comprehensive building of communism, writes V. Kucherenko, chairman of the U.S.S.R. State Committee for Construction, in an article published in *Pravda*.

Towns of the future must provide for a proper relationship between the principal elements which make up urban life: work, home life, the catering and cultural services, and recreation.

District planning, that is to say, drawing up projects for large industrial and agricultural areas, assumes vast importance. It must become the cornerstone of urban construction.

Towns, urban estates and farms can in this way be sited in the most healthy surroundings, the servicing of industrial establishments and communities can be co-ordinated in the interests of efficiency and economy, duplication can be avoided, and the latest techniques can be employed to the best advantage. Short-term planning can be considered in a rational way in relation to long-term projects.

Radical changes

The mistakes that were strongly criticised by the party and the government in their 1955 decision on eliminating extravagance in designing and building have still not been completely eliminated.

To this day many of our town planners' notions of a modern town and this applies not only to town planners—fail to take into account the radical changes that have occurred in the very nature of modern urban life. The principles of town building evolved in the epoch of class society—towns of imposing, ostentatious ensembles—still prevail in town planning practice and hinder the introduction of advanced methods based above all on concern for the comfort, convenience and healthy environment of the people.

Excessive growth

Although leading architects, economists, builders and writers in the capitalist countries have given great thought to the problem of excessive town growth, they have failed to suggest any workable methods of regulating and checking it. Most of them take a very pessimistic view in general of cities as a form of human habitation—an attitude which reflects the crisis of the capitalist town and of the theory of bourgeois town construction.

The problem of the distribution and regulation of town growth is

From Soviet (Embassy) News.

one of extremely great economic importance, and it is a problem which can be solved satisfactorily in building communist society.

There is every possibility of regulating the development of our productive forces and of distributing them with a view to the planned, proportionate and harmonious development of the national economy as a whole, and in particular in planning towns to meet the needs of the industries around which they arise and of the people who live in them.

Tendency must be checked

In practice, however, we far from always take advantage of the superiority of the planned nature of our state, and encourage instead a narrow local outlook and incorrect ideas about towns and their economy.

Between 1926 and 1959 the number of towns with a population of more than 100,000 increased from 31 to 148, and the number of towns with a population of more than 500,000 went up from three to 25.

In other words, there is also a tendency here for the population of a large town to be increased, in spite of the many party and government instructions on restricting the growth. Indeed, the general plans of many large towns leave room for an unwarranted growth of population.

This tendency must be decisively checked, and we have every possibility and every reason for doing so.

Although it is more economical

to maintain a town of 100,000 population than a town of 20,000, all other conditions being equal, this does not mean that it is more economical to maintain a town of one million people than one of 200,000 or 250,000.

When a town grows excessively, transport and utilities call for great financial outlays, and, what is more, maintaining high standards of public sanitation, hygiene and health becomes a more difficult problem.

The size of the population of large towns can be controlled by decentralising its distribution. Nikita Khrushchov, in his speech at the U.S.S.R. conference of building workers in 1954, stressed the importance of satellite towns as a realistic way of limiting the growth of large towns.

Satellite towns

Experience in town building has shown, he says, that if satellite towns are not linked up with industry, as is often the case abroad, they do not have the desired effect.

Provided they have their own industries, they can be situated 40 or 50 miles from the city—a very important factor inasmuch as the city suburbs should be surrounded with a wooded green belt of 10 to 13 miles, providing parks for leisure and healthy conditions for the population.

Another important factor in controlling the growth of big cities is the development of the existing small towns.

In our country the solution of the problem of controlling the size of the urban population, a problem which is insurmountable in conditions of capitalism, is closely linked with district planning and forms a component part of it.

Experience in designing and building towns has shown the need for big inter-town motorways bypassing towns but linked with them by clover leaf intersections.

Outgoing thoroughfares for fast traffic should dissect the city into large residential districts and should be lined with wide green verges to shield the residential areas from noise and dust and to reflect back the heat radiated by road surfaces.

Residential areas

The old endless prospect of the corridor street would disappear. The big districts between major thoroughfares would be intersected by a network of roads of local importance dividing them into neighbourhoods of approximately 100 to 120 acres each, and from this network there would be a system of blind alleys communicating with the residential areas and public buildings of the neighbourhood itself.

The big districts between major thoroughfares would have their own parks, shopping centres, places of entertainment and administrative buildings, and each neighbourhood would also have its own parks, schools, clubs, sports facilities and other public amenities.

Industrial plants located in resi-

dential areas or in direct proximity to them would have to be reconstructed to include gas and smoke dispersal installations, sewage treatment facilities to prevent the pollution of stretches of water and soil, and means of suppressing noise and vibration.

Great emphasis will be put on building dwellings for small families and young people.

With the expanding system of public amenities, in particular of catering establishments, it will be possible to reduce substantially the auxiliary space in such dwellings and thus make it economical to build smaller flats of one or two main rooms.

The system of public amenities catering directly for the needs of residential districts and neighbourhoods would include such institutions as outpatient clinics. Hospitals, functioning on a city scale, would be removed to suburban wooded areas, and the network of rest homes, country boarding houses, sanatoriums, prophylactic and children's institutions, and also of sports grounds, gardens, boulevards and recreation parks of the urban and suburban type, would be rapidly developed.

New building techniques

Industrialisation of building, which will become more and more comprehensive, is closely linked with the problem of rapidly expanding the construction of housing and public amenities. Converting the

building site into an assembly site is the basic trend in Soviet construction, ensuring lower costs and labour expenditure.

New building materials will make it possible to get rid of permanent walls which fix the lay-out of a flat or public building once and for all.

There is every reason to expect that, within certain limits, the re-planning of a flat in accordance with the occupant's wishes—when there is a change in family needs, for instance—and rearrangement of the premises of a kindergarten, club, etc., will be a matter amounting to little more than a simple shifting of equipment.

Work on further improving standard types of flats and dwellings as a whole, strict standardisation of building units and parts and going over completely to modern prefabricated structural units for assembling entire buildings would in no way dispose of the need for making homes, public buildings and districts as a whole architecturally handsome and attractive.

The conception of beauty in architecture is to this day associated in the mind with individual buildings. This is not surprising, since the old systems of construction—particularly the perimeter system, with its display of house fronts along a street—objectively reduced the problem of beauty to an "adorned front".

However, the modern functional planning of neighbourhoods is a complex creative task in which utility and beauty are inextricably interwoven. Not a little skill is needed to plan even a small flat, let alone to ensure the utmost convenience for the vast number of people living in a neighbourhood.

The artistic picture of the new cities of the near future is not a mere sum total of pompous facades but a living expression of the free, happy and healthy life of the builders of communist society. In architecture and what is specific to it, all that is convenient, efficient and rational is the necessary material prerequisite of beauty.

DEVELOPMENT

When we look at an underdeveloped country to try to see what it lacks and what it needs, we must guard against a tendency to do so from too Western a viewpoint. . . .

If a man by his labour improves his field—builds an earth wall, perhaps, or digs out a drain—or if he plants another cocoa tree, he is accumulating capital; and if thousands of his neighbours are doing it too, this capital investment, which passes unrecorded, may be just as real and important as the building of a cement factory which is opened by the Minister of Works.

Sir Norman Kipping, Director General of the Federation of British Industries, at the Royal Institution, London.

Is The International Monetary Fund Totalitarian? (or *Nescit dissimulare nescit regnare*)

Our New York Correspondent takes up a theme introduced in *Economic Digest*. We can say that the I.M.F. failed because its false idea of money led it to ignore the true springs of economic activity and the fact that international trade is only a small part of economic activity even for those most dependent on it.

A NATION'S economy and thus its currency is a function of its life as a whole. If national economic life is healthy, i.e., its people productive and the most modern techniques applied to its resources, conditions will be created whereby it will be able to constantly renew its creative strength and canalise its energies into constructive activities. These will then give its currency value and stability. In this sense we can say it has *intrinsic* value and hence international value by the monetising of these assets. But Bretton Woods attempted the opposite: to use 'intrinsic value' (gold) to impart intrinsic value to the dollar by making gold reflect the wealth value of the dollar. This was to be done by the use of the vast gold reserve of the U.S., which it thought rendered it impervious to balance of payments problems by boycotting other currencies and by the clauses in the agreement whereby 'soft' currency loans had to be repaid in 'hard' currency, i.e., gold or dollars.

Thus other countries had their monetary sovereignty in effect wrested from them and by the restrictive policies of the Fund were

prevented from creating their own purchasing power, i.e., monetising their assets, at a value commensurate with their own efforts. Their currencies and their economic activity were to revolve around the dollar by having their values arbitrarily fixed to it: if the dollar inflated they must inflate and *vice versa*. This we have seen happen.

This seizure of nations' monetary sovereignty occurred at the moment of a great victory by the forces of liberty in Europe led by Britain. This is significant.

Threat to public order and sovereignty

Articles IX and XVII of the I.M.F. agreement are statutes creating a judicial personality, leading to judicial immunity, *except where expressly renounced*. Yet in no country till now can a foreign organisation demand immunity against the local custom or common law or public order. This is the tyrannical idea of sovereignty as being above the law: "*Les biens et avoirs du Fonds en quelques lieux qu'ils se trouvent et quelqu'en soient les détenteurs seraient exempt de perquisition . . . et de toute autre*

forme de saisie de la part du pouvoir exécutif ou législatif". The Fund has also secured diplomatic immunity for its personnel. The whole threat has been brilliantly examined by J. Lalive in his article '*Vers un nouvel ordre public*' in the *Recueil des Cours* (Liège 1957).

In its relation with other international organisations the I.M.F. displays the essence of classic tyranny. Contracting parties to the G.A.T.T. must consult the Fund as to whether any action is in accordance with its regulations and accept the Fund's ruling. Contracting parties must report violations of the agreement and if not members of the Fund must become so.

Furthermore the rate of repayment to the Fund of Gold or dollars for 'soft' currency loans is tied to the increase of a member's reserves. This is a matter involving questions of both fact and law; yet members must accept the Fund's ruling. In fact, the Fund seizes control of members' currencies as it did of England's when it forced devaluation. The idea of national monetary sovereignty is eliminated, although currency decisions are decisions affecting the social life of the country.

Conflict

We have already mentioned in articles in *Economic Digest* the conflicts engendered by the Fund in its attempts to impose deflation on debtors. As the Managing Director stated, "The Fund is recognised more and more as a source of credit

only for those countries which have satisfied the Fund of their intention and capacity to restore balance". Thus, under the guise of Ricardian doctrines, the opportunity is taken to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. Yet the Fund has neglected to examine the cardinal question as to what is meant by Balance. In fact under the Fund's Ricardian doctrines Fundamental Disequilibrium, in the sense of a non-self-righting trend, cannot occur. Did not the great liberal Jew teach that the Law of Comparative Costs and price-Specie flow mechanism brought automatic adjustment of the price and cost structure of the country in surplus?

Thus, although lip service is paid to the idea of disequilibrium, it is never defined nor its causes: exchange rates? price structure? terms of trade? cyclical movements? long term capital movements? change in factor endowments? trade restrictions (tariffs or quotas)? etc. No, says the Fund, there is only one cause: 'You are living beyond your means'. Disequilibrium can however be defined, in accordance with modern ideas, as no nett change (over a long period) in a country's reserve means of international payment, at full employment and without restrictions. This means of course that account must be taken not only of current transactions but also capital flows—probably the cardinal problem of international trade—which would eventuate in adjustments being made by expansion of the creditor's economy rather than

deflation of the debtor's. But this would be the death blow to the idea of intrinsic value and so is unacceptable.

Collectivism

Does all this amount to fascism? The threat to public order, seizure of monetary sovereignty, incessant pressures, abuse of international institutions? Or is it merely the Free World counterpart of the Comintern with articles corresponding to Mr. Zinoviev's 19 points? Or are

we to believe Mr. Don Jos Passos who, in his preface to 'Up from Liberalism' (by P. Buckley), says it is merely the lust for power and money of the neo-liberals—the flotsam of the New Deal.

I think History will show it to have been the high watermark of collectivism, which defeated in its military aspects in 1944, is still rampant, in its economic aspects. There are hopeful signs that too it is on the wane.

Reader's Commentary

MALTHUS

From: John C. Cook, Box Bush House, Henton, near Wells, Som.

I HAVE read your October issue, notably the articles by Desmond Allhusen, that concerning Friend Sykes and the stricture of the neo-Malthusians by Ivan Artyomov. It must surely be a rare experience for a Free Trader to find his views supported from Russia.

Surely Malthus has been proved wrong so many times that his theories should now be thoroughly discredited. It is instructive to note that Malthus was denounced by Karl Marx and Henry George who produced opposing philosophies.

THE U.S. DOLLAR

The large balance-of-payments deficits of 1958 and 1959 mark the end of the post-war era of easy, almost automatic, dollar supremacy. The dollar that has maintained this supremacy is one that has lost 38 per cent of its purchasing power in 14 years, and 19 per cent in 10 years. A currency so depreciated could hold its position only because the leading foreign currencies were under even greater pressure. But this is no longer the case. Our competitors have attained a position of strength, a position that enables them to make an effective stand against currency depreciation, and they are rightly seizing the opportunity. In this new and more rugged environment, we can no longer enjoy the luxurious paradox of a soft dollar at home and a hard dollar abroad.

From The Morgan Guaranty Survey, December, 1959.

U.S. Foreign Aid

ONE of the major disappointments in the U.S. economy during 1959 was the poor showing in the field of foreign trade. Imports increased substantially, reflecting the rise in consumption of materials, the shortage of steel, and the advance in incomes. At the same time commercial exports showed little gain on a year-to-year basis. The result was a considerable reduction in the country's trade surplus, which had a moderately depressing influence on gross national product. More important, it accentuated concern over the ability of American goods to compete in both foreign and domestic markets.

Trade position

The trade position of the United States in 1960 should be considerably better than in 1959. Several factors will work to check the rise in imports. Lumber and wood-product imports will tend to be lower if the housing decline persists. Domestic supplies of meat are expected to be somewhat more plentiful than in the past year. The new "compact" cars should counter to some extent the sharp rise in automobile imports. Domestic steel presumably will recapture most of

the sales made by foreign suppliers as a result of the strike. Finally, with business activity advancing in Europe and elsewhere, foreign producers will be faced with more intense demands to supply home markets, and in some instances this will reduce ability to ship goods to the United States. In combination, these factors may very well hold total imports in the coming year close to the estimated 1959 level.

Exports

Meanwhile, this country's exports are likely to rise by as much as \$2 billion in 1960, aided by continued improvement in business conditions abroad and by the fact that restrictions on dollar goods have been liberalized by a number of countries in recent months. Some special factors also will bolster exports, including sharp recovery in shipments of steel to overseas markets, a large total of jet aircraft deliveries to foreign airlines, and a rebound of cotton exports—probably more than doubling—reflecting changes in the subsidy programme. This likely strength in over-all exports, together with the prospect of only a modest gain in imports, points to at least a mild stimulus to GNP from foreign trade in 1960.

From The Morgan Guaranty Survey.

RURAL ECONOMY—continued from page 58

Italy which have been worked under the Del Pelo Pardi System for a number of years, and these show

without exception remarkable increase of fertility and a high standard of production.

Digest Reviews

DIGEST BOOK SELECTION

BIOGRAPHY OF A NATION

by *Albert Guérard*.

Reviewed by John Biggs-Davison

BIOGRAPHY OF A NATION

France, by *Albert Guérard*. (University of Michigan Press and Ann Arbor; Mayflower Press, London; \$8.75, £3 10s. in U.K.).

Professor Guérard's five hundred odd pages, about a hundred of them devoted to the period since 1918, can be read by the non-expert with unfailing pleasure. A gifted stylist, blessed with humanity and humour, he shows sympathy all round, does substantial justice to the conflicting ideals and forces which have rent France and poses the pros and cons in lucid counter-array for the judgment of the reader. Professor Guérard is no clericalist or latter-day monarchist. He tends to equate the Catholics with "reaction" and, though he mentions it in a note, does not examine the case for there having been a subversive conspiracy behind the "*Grand Peur*" and other events of 1789. Had he given credit to the Royalist element in the Resistance the failure of Vichy to achieve a royal restoration might have been attributed to other factors than the

negative nature of the *Action française*. Yet he describes well the role of the Church in the Dark and Middle Ages and the glories of thirteenth century France, as also the evolution of the monarchy from the personal to the national. The importance throughout the centuries of the often lowly officials who served the kings and their republican and imperial successors is also admirably described.

The author himself uses the phrase "biography of a nation". He surveys the grand tapestry of conquests and treaties, battles and rebellions, Church and State, giving place and date to all, but the saints and savants are not forgotten and the character of a people, their civilisation, their peculiarities are brought to dramatic life. There are pithy vignettes. Gide is "the most assured of guides nowhither"; but was Jean Jaures in 1914 really "the one great force for peace"?

Professor Guérard exhibits at times a liberal naivete. "Democracy" comes into the story prematurely; "totalitarian" seems sometimes to mean merely "despotic".

We are told that the French proposal for a League (*Société*) of Nations with coercive power, unlike the schemes of Lloyd George and Wilson, had no basis of national interest. It did not seem so to the Germans! The Professor is also unrealistic about U.N.O. Rejecting determinism, he appears to have absorbed the liberal internationalism with which the United States has offended many nations. He proclaims the almost mechanical absorption of smaller by larger political units, with some placatory mention of regional devolution, and ascribes such a view to France, for whom nationalism is a heresy! France, he argues, cultural parent of the American Republic and "a province of the Western world" will merge her sovereignty if only the Americans don't bully and nag her. But he should not have built so much on what General de Gaulle told the World Parliament Association. The Professor rightly draws the logical conclusion of political federation from the European Economic Community; but France can be pragmatic.

Some common misunderstandings of Britain are here repeated. It is not England who today is dividing Europe. Professor Guérard writes splendidly of the days when Anglo-French affairs were mingled by faith and fief and conquest, though English sovereigns touched for the King's evil centuries earlier than he says. Lord Lansdowne is harshly described as a "defeatist" in 1917 when a negotiated peace might have

averted Bolshevism and much misery. It is too easy to think back to the Kaiser in terms of Hitler. Professor Guérard also distorts Churchill's painful decision to withdraw the R.A.F. from France in 1940. Nor is the Cabinet the "executive committee of Parliament".

But these criticisms are paltry beside Professor Guérard's magnificent achievement of a clear and fascinating yet profound and scholarly history of a great and renascent nation. If other volumes of the History of the Modern World edited by Allan Nevins and Howard M. Ehrmann are as good, they and their authors and the renowned University whence they come will have deserved well of the English-reading world.

COMMONWEALTH

The Empire and Commonwealth Year Book, 1959-1960. Edited by Ronald S. Russell, M.A., M.P. Eighth Edition. With a Foreword by The Hon. Sir Grantley Adams, Kt., C.M.G., Q.C., Prime Minister of the West Indies. (Newman Neame; 50s.)

We again welcome this important annual event, correctly described by Mr. R. A. Butler as "a mine of information". It is still further improved this year having useful new features such as a section on the United Kingdom Board of Trade, and a brief account of the Sterling Area and international organizations not so far included. Relevant to

controversies and changes in Canada before and since her last General Election is the section giving details of foreign investment in the Dominion. Uranium metals have a section to themselves, so important to Commonwealth development is nuclear energy. The Republic of Ireland, whose citizens are "non-alien" in the Commonwealth, is rightly included.

POLICY AND ACTION

Science in Industry—Policy for Progress, by C. F. Carter and B. R. Williams. (Oxford University Press; 21s.).

The third in a series of reports written for the Science and Industry Committee, this book makes valuable suggestions for policy and action to assist in the full use of science in industry. The authors consider that industry should first consider what it could do for itself and Part I is devoted to recommendations to management. The second part deals with action to be taken by the Government.

TRAVEL IN LEBANON

Smelling the Breezes. A Journey through the High Lebanon. By Ralph and Molly Izzard. (Hodder & Stoughton; 18s.).

The Izzards are a gallant pair—not so much for journeying in the Lebanon as for taking their children with them. Their story is well

written without the archness and longuets of too many travel books. With its end-paper map and excellent photographs, one coloured, it makes a delightful production.

MALTA

The British Five Year Plan for Malta. An Analysis by Dr. Thomas Balogh with a Foreword by Dom Mintoff and the Exchange of Correspondence on the visit to Malta of the Secretary of State for the Colonies in December, 1959. Published by the Malta Labour Party.

It is not long ago since Mr. Mintoff used Dr. Balogh's statistics and persuasive powers on the side of integration with Britain. That was a good solution for Malta, *g.c.*—spoilt by haggling. Now Mr. Mintoff demands a bad solution, independence, and again uses Dr. Balogh's figures to establish not the value of union but the menaces of the British Government. The British people will not let Malta down, but are not to be swayed by abuse of their leaders.

THE U.N.

"Everyman's" United Nations (Sixth edition). (H.M.S.O.; 25s.).

The sixth edition of Everyman's United Nations, an official but condensed reference book on the work of the United Nations family, is written for the layman rather than

the specialist and describes the structure and functions of the United Nations and its affiliated international agencies up to early 1959.

Prepared by the United Nations Office of Public Information it covers all important problems and developments with which the United Nations family has been concerned. They include efforts towards harnessing the atom for peace, studies on outer space, technical assistance for less-developed countries, the progress of dependent peoples toward self-government or independence, the clearance of the Suez Canal, and the establishment of the United Nations Emergency Force.

RURAL ECONOMY

Farm Rents, by D. R. Denman and V. F. Stewart. (Allen & Unwin; 27s. 6d.).

Agriculture and Urban Growth, by G. P. Wibberley. (Michael Joseph; 21s.).

The first of these books provides a useful comparison of current and past farm rents in England and Wales based on evidence obtained from a nation-wide survey carried out by the Department of Estate Management of Cambridge University in 1957.

'Agriculture and Urban Growth' is a study of the competition for rural land. It examines how the land of Britain is being used and the nature of the competition between rural and urban areas. It also makes

proposals for overcoming the difficulties which arise from these competing interests.

TROTSKY

The Prophet Unarmed—Trotsky 1921-1929, by Isaac Deutscher. (Oxford University Press; 38s.).

This is an excellent study of Trotsky and the events which led to his downfall. Despite his undoubted intellectual genius, Trotsky, marked as the successor to Lenin, proved no match for the despised Stalin who gradually gathered power into his own hands by intrigues for which Trotsky had only contempt. Mr. Deutscher has marshalled the facts with skill. He has already told the first part of the story in 'The Prophet Armed' and will be dealing with the final years of Trotsky's life in 'The Prophet Outcast'.

LIFE IN SICILY

The Ten Pains of Death, by Gavin Maxwell. (Longmans; 30s.).

The author visited Sicily in 1953 in search of information on the bandit Giuliano and in his own words "became horrified and fascinated by Western Sicily". This book sets out a series of autobiographies of the men, women and children with whom he lived and worked. It portrays a graphic picture of destitution, poverty, illiteracy, violence and crime, set in a background of the rocky sun-scorched landscape of Sicily.

SUPERSOCIALISM?

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, by A. K. Cairncross, Princeton.

Here Professor Cairncross proclaims the philosophy of the Bank and its staff which is that "practically speaking the Bank knows better than its customers." Here then is the distilled essence of Supersocialism!

Fortunately neither theory nor fact support such a claim.

On theoretical level, the debate rages between the supporters of 'balanced' *versus* the supporters of 'unbalanced' development. Unless therefore the small group of supersocialists in Washington have decided in favour of both they cannot 'know better'. Secondly, what reason is there for supposing that on the one hand local or private decisions will be more (or less) 'balanced' than decisions taken in Washington and that therefore the result will be in the first case chaos and stagnation and in the second all sweetness and light, balance (or unbalance!) and progress?

On the practical level, we know that the decisions of the Bank have often been contrary to the local view and basically wrong—starting with the famous refusal to lend money to the South Africans for the SASOL scheme (Oil from Coal) which has been so successful and led to the development of a number of satellite chemical industries. The Bank would only lend for an electric power station.

Furthermore, what is the "opinion of the Bank"? In the case of SASOL the Bank consulted an American oil company!

Many think that the whole emphasis of Bank lending on industrialisation rather than agriculture has been a major error, as it has led to spending rather than an accumulation of capital with which to finance development.

It is frightening to see how little the Bank is able to move with the times and how deeply embedded are the relics of Rooseveltian dirigism and statism, and the vested interest in maintaining them.

The author is Professor of Applied Economics in Glasgow — Adam Smith's town. What a derogation from the liberal ideal! Perhaps he should meditate again on Smith's principles. It was these which made his own *Introduction to Economics* such an excellent work and we would like to hear more of them.

MISSING THE POINT

International Reserves and Liquidity (International Monetary Fund).

The Finance Minister for South Africa has said that the most encouraging thing about this study was that according to the Managing Director's foreword it "does not necessarily represent the views of the Executive Directors".

The report opens with an introduction on the pre-1914 system which fails to bring out its dependence on the British balance of payments surplus and good creditor

policies and then discusses at length the mathematical relationship of reserves to adequacy, which conception of reserves has already in the introduction, been dismissed as "inadequate". The report then concludes with "inadequate" recommendations for the future.

Not only is the theoretical base of the report inadequate but it virtually ignores the daily workings of the international economy. Not a word appears, except once where it is completely misunderstood. This perhaps explains the omission. On page 57 discussing the current account surplus of sterling the report quotes the annual statement of the Chairman of Lloyd's Bank on this subject: "The total available for foreign investment, etc., was 1,051 million pounds which had its counterpart as follows: (1) Net capital investment 359 million (representing gross investment of 648 million partly offset by an increase of 289 million in the sterling balances)." Then follow 2, 3 and 4 with which we are not concerned, but let us examine this astonishing 1.

The authors seem to have misunderstood how the Sterling Area works: as an international deposit banking system how could its investments be *offset* by an increase in the balances which the increase in its assets (investments) has brought about? The overseas investment was 648 million—not a penny less, in practice probably much more. No bank in the world makes up its accounts in this way. How could it? Dr. Ida Greaves has shown, in

her *Colonial Sterling Balances*, that their growth represents not a weakening but a strengthening of sterling. They are the usufruct, banked in London, of these investments composed by the increased income, profits, working capital, etc., resulting from the increased production—in fact a strengthening of the Sterling Area core—an increase in owner's equity, not liability. But so strong is the mania for trying to weaken every other currency except gold or dollars that even the high and the (once) mighty are blinded.

GEOPOLITICS, STRATEGY AND SCIENCE

The Prof: A Personal Memoir of Lord Cherwell, by R. F. Harrod. (Macmillan; 25s.).

The Military and Industrial Revolution of our Time, by Fritz Sternberg. Translated from the German by Edward Fitzgerald. (Atlantic Books: Stevens; 25s., in the U.K.).

Disengagement, by Eugène Hinterhoff. (Atlantic Books: Stevens; 45s.).

The Tyrant from Below: An Essay in Political Revaluation, by Alun Llewellyn. (21s.).

Does our age of breathless scientific and technological advance demand that our kings (our rulers) should be not philosophers but scientists and our scientists kings? Professor Lindemann was Winston Churchill's firm friend and scientific *alter ego* when the latter headed the wartime Coalition but Sir Roy

Harrod suggests that "the Prof" himself suspected the aptitude for public affairs of many good scientific minds. Nor are all economists to be entrusted with the management of a national economy, their very inexact science having elevated some of them above the struggles of human greed and aspiration. Sir Roy Harrod however is a cultured and humane all-rounder, an economist who has taken part in, or witnessed the workings of, politics and diplomacy. His study of "the Prof" is delightfully written and will be enjoyed for its engaging stylish prose as well as for what he reveals of a brave and brilliant man, and of their contemporaries in years of stress and storm, above all of Churchill to whom Sir Roy the intellectual pays tribute as one of the great intellects.

The modern State needs great intellects alert to science, men thinking clearly and deeply about the changes required by the second industrial revolution which, Dr. Sternberg tells us, may make the four-day working week anything but utopian. He holds that since World War II military-technological developments have for the first time in history preceded technological-industrial developments. Examples are automation, atomic energy and space research. Dr. Sternberg's is a wise book which should be studied by all our politicians. He dispels many popular, or convenient, misconceptions such as that the USSR has superiority in manpower; gives the Chinese birth-rate as a motive for

Soviet-American co-operation; and paints on a broad canvas a convincing picture of the tasks and problems of our day—such as the role of Trade Unions when automation has reduced not only working hours but the importance of industry relative to what Mr. Colin Clark has called the "tertiary" occupations (distribution, administration, etc.). A minor criticism is that Dr. Sternberg gives all the credit for the British Welfare State to the Labour Party, but the Tories have usually been a mystery to foreign savants.

Mr. Llewellyn treats also of the world struggle but in terms of geopolitics of the Mackinder tradition. Published in 1957, his brilliant book has not received proper recognition. This may be because he has really written two books in one, the second being a penetrating exposure of the danger to democracy in an egalitarian mass society such as ours where few constitutional limitations remain upon the power of the majority in a House of Commons made up of party delegates rather than representatives of communities. Democracy is also menaced by North American, Latin American, African and Eurasian concentrations of territory and power which have made an association of Commonwealth and European nations vital. He gives particular importance to the great highways, built by friend and foe of World War II and since, connected with air routes, and replacing a world economy based on sea communication by one based on

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continental land-links—to the advantage of Communist expansion.

For Mr. Llewellyn Europe is the key theatre, with Africa its hinterland. It is not surprising that a mutual thinning out of opposing forces from the heart of Europe should have been proposed as a means to the easement of East-West tension. Captain Hinterhoff, formerly of the Polish Supreme Military Council, and well-known in the Military Commentators' Circle in London, has written a scholarly and serviceable book which efficiently summarizes much of the recent history of the European deadlock and sets out clearly the many schemes of so-called disengagement—from both sides of the Iron Curtain. He disbelieves in the safety of the *status quo*, based upon the "delicate balance of terror", and puts forward his own disengagement plan, but holds that a comprehensive disarmament is essential to peace in Europe.

THUMBS DOWN FOR WELENSKY

Dawn in Nyasaland, by Guy Clutton-Brock. (Hodder; 3s. 6d.).

Some may be put off by an Introduction which includes such woolly words as: "In Africa the common man is not essentially different from the common man anywhere else. On each continent he differs but not in essentials". Others may recall with varying opinions Mr. Guy Clutton-Brock's detention as a member of the African National Congress at the time of the disturb-

ances in Nyasaland, and the attempt by those who are only interested in Christian bodies for their political opinions to claim a special sanctity for St. Faith's Mission.

Yet here are to be found conveniently collected facts, figures and important quotations about Nyasaland by one who has considerable experience of that troubled and topical Protectorate. What mainly mars the work, which was started in 1951, is the patronising touch of the "Noble African" myth with its accompanying myth of the "Ignoble Settler". In 1960 Britons have the duty to examine the call for Federation as well as the call against. Only the latter will be found here!

G.A.T.T. AND ALL THAT

The Legal Framework of World Trade, by V. A. Seyid Muhammad, M.A., Ph.D., LL.B. Published under the auspices of the London Institute of World Affairs. (Stevens; £2 2s.).

Politicians and diplomatists as well as students of economics will find here a valuable concise account of the international institutions and agreements which bind many of the commercial relationships of most of the non-Communist world. Their professed purpose is to free the trade of the nations; but history teaches and France has shown Europe recently that insistence on the most favoured nations clause in its unconditional form has restricted trade rather than liberated it, for it is harder to lower barriers all round

rather than discriminatingly in accordance with the balance on payments and the willingness of others to import as well as export. "Discrimination", inevitable in a world of nations who differ greatly in resources but little in their love of basic economic sovereignty, has however become a bogey useful to continental blocs which can protect those within their common frontiers against those outside without formal tariff discrimination.

V. A. Seyid Muhammad does not criticise an orthodoxy of paradox, which makes one sympathetic with the American Senator who said, "Anyone who reads the General Agreement is liable to have his sanity impaired", but has undertaken the useful task of describing the system as it is. Yet the Harvard Charter was never ratified by the U.S. Congress, the Organisation for Trade Co-operation, proposed to make G.A.T.T. permanent, hangs fire and the European trade tangle, worsened by the limitations placed by G.A.T.T. and the most favoured nation clause on forms of international economic association more flexible than customs union, indicates the necessity of revising in the 1960's the ideas of the 1940's. In the world as it is, and perhaps as it ought to be, the lowering of trade barriers is not good in itself, nor are the nations inexorably destined to a liberal determinist's future of merging circles of liberalization. For the realist, and for the Commonwealth the test of a tariff is not its height but what it does.

SHORT NOTICES

The Future of Metalliferous Mining in Great Britain: with Special Reference to Tin and Tungsten, and a Suggestion for Saving Dollars, by F. Lyde Caunter. (Philp & Sons Ltd., Liskeard, Cornwall).

Cornwall was once the world's biggest producer of tin and copper. Here is well argued the case against present day neglect of a national asset.

Strafford in Ireland: 1633-41: A Study in Absolutism, by Hugh F. Kearney. (Manchester University Press; 35s.).

This is a fascinating and scholarly account of the stewardship of "the first and last lord deputy of Ireland" who aimed high and fell far. It is written, unlike more popular accounts, from an Irish point of view. Mr. Kearney is Lecturer in History in University College, Dublin.

Elections and Party Management: Politics in the Time of Disraeli and Gladstone, by H. J. Hanlam. (Longmans; 50s.).

Mr. Hanlam, a New Zealander on the staff of Manchester University, has written an enjoyable analysis of the mechanics of Parliamentary representation which will be helpful to students of a period when land-lords still dominated the politics of an industrial land. More might have been said of the Primrose League—the first national organization of the Tory Democracy.

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FOR REFERENCE

Items in this Section will be kept for one year. Any of our readers and any member of the Economic Research Council who wishes to refer to any of them is invited to apply, citing the appropriate number or numbers (given in brackets after each item).

O.E.E.C.

Economic Conditions in Member and Associated Countries of the O.E.E.C.

Switzerland. (7)

Sweden. (8)

Surveys cover 18 months period ending mid-1959.

U.S. Reports

A British Assessment of the Ameri-

can Economy, by Christopher Buxton. (U.S. Information Service).

Views on the American economy by a Rotary Foundation Fellowship Student from London. (9)

Mission Report on Restrictive Business Practices in the U.S., by O. D. K. Norbye. (European Productivity Agency, Paris). (Project No. 414).

Report of an E.P.A. Mission which visited U.S.A. to study restricted business practices. (10)

Fawley Foundation

The Risks of Progress, by Lord Adrian. University of Southampton.

The Sixth Fawley Foundation Lecture. (11)

DIGEST SPOTLIGHT—continued from page 42.

own enthusiasm, and who are backed by executives with the means and the knowledge to put their ideas into practice.

And what are the ideas? To bring people together across the Commonwealth? Yes. But to bring the business world, the young executives, and the Commonwealth students (with Prime Minister's dispatch boxes in their mind) into a realization that in the Commonwealth they belong to something bigger than themselves; that those at the top have everything to lose if they do not practically and finan-

cially accept this, and that those on their way up have everything to gain by joining the Society's ranks. In this tremendous task Lord De La Warr has found himself.

He is half way to a summit. The measure of his success can be seen. It is there in the new look in the headquarters building itself in London. It is there in the enthusiasm and work of the Society itself. It is there in the new interest that the business world is taking in all these developments. But there is still a great deal for him to do.